

10/580127
IAP9 Recd PCT/PTO 19 MAY 2006

Docket No.: 12088/044001
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Shigeo Hirose et al.

Application No.: National Phase of PCT/JP2004/017161

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: CRAWLER BELT, CRAWLER UNIT AND
METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING CRAWLER
BELT

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

22511
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language references is enclosed.

Applicant has not submitted copies of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application as required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), amended October 2004, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has waived this requirement for all U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references, or is otherwise referred to in the specification.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0591, under Order No. 12088/044001.

Dated: May 19, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

Substitute for form 1449/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Shigeo Hirose
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	12088/044001

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ³
		Country Code ⁴ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	JP-3-109988	11-12-1991	Fukuyama Gomu Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha		
	BB	JP-2002-211455	07-31-2002	Ohtsu Tire & Rubber Co Ltd: The		
	BC	JP-6-15633	06-03-1994	Bridgestone Corp		
	BD	JP-6-329057	11-29-1994	Ohtsu Tire & Rubber Col Ltd: The		
	BE	JP-6-199253	07-19-1994	Ohtsu Tire & Rubber Co. Ltd: The		

*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			
	CA	International Search Report for PCT/JP2004/017161 dated 03/08/2005 (1 page)			
	CB	Patent Abstracts of Japan 2002-211455 dated 07/31/2002 (1 page)			
	CC	Patent Abstracts of Japan 06-156333 dated 06/03/1994 (1 page)			
	CD	Patent Abstracts of Japan 06-329057 dated 11/29/1994 (1 page)			
	CE	Patent Abstracts of Japan 06-199253 dated 07/19/1994 (1 page)			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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152701

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/017161

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
Int.Cl⁷ B62D55/253

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
Int.Cl⁷ B62D55/253

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922-1996 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2005
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2005 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2005

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y A	Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 19041/1990 (Laid-open No. 109988/1991) (Fukuyama Gomu Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha), 12 November, 1991 (12.11.91), Full text; Figs. 1 to 7 (Family: none)	1, 2, 6 3-5, 7-9
Y A	JP 2002-211455 A (The Ohtsu Tire & Rubber Co., Ltd.), 31 July, 2002 (31.07.02), Full text; Figs. 1 to 18 (Family: none)	1, 2, 6 3-5, 7-9

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
14 February, 2005 (14.02.05)

Date of mailing of the international search report
08 March, 2005 (08.03.05)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Faxsimile No.

Telephone No.